

River Valley Rubric

Descriptors of Successful Writing	Trait	Strong (10)	Proficient (9)	Developing (8)	Emerging (7)
Writing fully communicates ideas and shows sustained thought. 10 = Author fully writes from own knowledge/discussion; ideas are fully from a historical perspective and uniquely the author's. 9 = Author writes mostly from own knowledge/discussion; ideas are mostly from a historical perspective and uniquely the author's. 8 = Author somewhat writes from own knowledge/discussion; ideas are somewhat from a historical perspective and uniquely the author's. 7 = Author generalizes about topic without historical knowledge or personal analysis.	Ideas (x2)				
Details are used to tell more. 10 = All details are relevant and fully support the key ideas addressed in the piece. 9 = Most details are relevant and mostly support the key ideas addressed in the piece. 8 = Some details are relevant and sometimes support the key ideas addressed in the piece. 7 = Few details are relevant and do not support the key ideas addressed in the piece.	Ideas (x2)				
One idea flows logically into the next. 10 = Sequencing is logical and effective; moves reader through piece with ease from start to finish. Organization enhances reader's understanding of the piece. 9 = Most of the sequencing makes sense and helps move reader through piece. 8 = Sequencing shows some logic, but is not controlled enough to consistently move the reader through the piece. 7 = Little sequencing is present; it's hard to see how the piece fits together as a whole.	Organization				
There is varied and descriptive vocabulary. 10 = All of the historical vocabulary is effectively and naturally used to enhance the reader's understanding. Amount of historical vocabulary is appropriate to the length of the piece. 9 = Most of the historical vocabulary is effectively and naturally used to enhance the reader's understanding. Amount of historical vocabulary is appropriate to the length of the piece. 8 = Some of the historical vocabulary is effectively and naturally used to enhance the reader's understanding. Amount of historical vocabulary is appropriate to the length of the piece. 7 = Little of the historical vocabulary is effectively and naturally used to enhance the reader's understanding. Amount of historical vocabulary is appropriate to the length of the piece.	Word Choice				
Subtotals					
TOTAL [10 = A; 9 = B; 8 = C; 7 = D]					

Name _____ Hour _____

Question: Which of the four river valley civilizations we studied was the most successful? Defend your answer.

Total score _____/60

Comments _____
